

ICC SMART TIPS

PREDATORY SAFETY TOWS

Safety towers remove damaged and disabled vehicles from public or private property. The Illinois Commercial Safety Tow Law applies to safety towers in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Will and Winnebago counties. Safety towers must relicense annually with the ICC and written pre-disclosure forms must be approved.

While federal law preempts the ICC from regulating Safety tow rates, the ICC police conduct surveillance and are on patrol, and have authority to issue citations for a number of violations. Police also investigate complaints made by motorists, and if police find a violation has occurred, one or more citations may be issued.



HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF:

- If your vehicle is disabled or damaged and a tow truck suddenly arrives on the scene – do **NOT** give them permission to tow your vehicle without first verifying that they were called by the police or your insurance company.
- Do not give tow truck drivers your insurance information.
- Look for signage on the tow truck. Lettering on the side of the truck is required by law. The signage should match the paperwork they provide.
- Ask for a disclosure form showing rates, including storage fees and the location where the vehicle is being towed before it is hooked up. Don't let them take your vehicle if the pre-tow disclosure is blank.

HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

Complete the back side of the tow bill issued to you; fill it out and send to the ICC Police.

Complaint forms may also be downloaded from the ICC website at www.icc.illinois.gov/authority/safety-relocator on the transportation page. Complete and mail to:

**ILLINOIS COMMERCE
COMMISSION POLICE**
9511 W Harrison St.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
847-294-4326



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